

**MINUTES OF THE  
TRANSPORTATION, ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY & NATIONAL GUARD  
APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE  
Room W010, West Office Building, State Capitol Complex  
Wednesday, January 24, 2007**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Sen. Carlene Walker, Co-Chair  
Rep. Wayne Harper, Co-Chair  
Sen. Fred Fife  
Rep. Glenn A. Donnelson  
Rep. Kevin Garn  
Rep. Neil Hansen  
Rep. Neal B. Hendrickson  
Rep. Todd E. Kiser  
Rep. Patrick Painter

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Sen. Sheldon Killpack  
Sen. John Valentine  
Rep. Becky Lockhart

**STAFF PRESENT:** Mark C. Bleazard, Fiscal Analyst  
Rosemary Young, Committee Secretary

**Note:** A list of visitors and copy of handouts are filed with committee minutes.

Sen. Walker called the meeting to order at 2:14 p.m.

**MOTION:** Rep. Donnelson moved to approve the minutes of the January 18, 2007 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

**Department of Transportation**

Carlos Braceras, Deputy Director of the Department of Transportation, and M. Patrick Morley, Director of the Division of Aeronautics, explained to the committee the need for a proposed radar at Point of the Mountain because there is a blind spot in Utah County to the Air Traffic Control. This radar installation would extend the current radar services at Salt Lake International Airport and act as a backup to the primary services at Salt Lake International Airport. Provo would be a secondary beneficiary. This need has been identified for some time and was addressed before the time of the Olympics in 2002, but "9-11" changed priorities. The Division is not asking for funding, only for support for our Congressional delegation in moving this forward. There was discussion as to the concerns of General Aviation about fuel taxes and aircraft registration fees. They would like to restructure registration fees to be more competitive with surrounding states. There was also discussion as to the source of funds and cost of operating the three aircraft in the Department.

**MOTION:** Rep. Kiser moved to approve the Base Budget for the Division of Aeronautics in the amount of \$27,193,700. The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Rep. Kiser moved to approve the Base Budget for B & C Roads in the amount of \$120,013,800. The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Rep. Kiser moved to approve the Base Budget for Equipment Management in the amount of \$17,093,200 also the recommendation of \$1,000,000 in Dedicated Credits in FY 2007 and FY 2008 for equipment purchases. The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Rep. Kiser moved to approve the Base Budget for Mineral Lease in the amount of \$39,469,000 and the following intent language:

*It is the intent of the Legislature that funds appropriated from the Federal Mineral Lease Account shall be used for improvement or reconstruction of highways that have been heavily impacted by energy development. It is also the intent of the Legislature that private industries engaged in developing the State's natural resources be encouraged to participate in the construction of highways leading to their facilities. The funds appropriated for improvement or reconstruction of energy impacted highways are nonlapsing.*

The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Rep. Kiser moved to approve the Base Budget for Sidewalk Construction in the amount of \$500,000 and the following intent language:

*It is the intent of the Legislature that funds appropriated from the Transportation Fund for pedestrian safety projects be used specifically to correct pedestrian hazards on State highways. It is also the intent of the Legislature that local authorities be encouraged to participate in the construction of pedestrian safety devices. The appropriated funds are to be used according to criteria set forth in Section 72-8-104, Utah Code Annotated, 1953. The funds appropriated for sidewalk construction shall not lapse. If local governments cannot use their allocation of Sidewalk Safety Funds in two years, these funds will be available for other governmental entities which are prepared to use the resources. It is the intent of the Legislature that local participation in the Sidewalk Construction Program be on a 75% state and 25% local match basis.*

The motion passed unanimously.

Mark Bleazard, Fiscal Analyst, reviewed the Engineering Services budget brief. The base budget recommendation is \$28,698,500 for FY 2008 which includes funding for the following programs:

Program Development	\$8,765,300
Preconstruction Administration	1,106,400
Environmental	815,100

Structures	2,365,100
Materials Lab	3,856,000
Engineering Services	2,561,400
Right of Way	2,024,800
Research	1,868,400
Construction Management	4,985,600
Civil Rights	\$ 350,400

The sources of these funds are \$88,100 from the General Fund, \$16,962,200 from the Transportation Fund, \$10,997,800 from Federal Funds, and \$650,400 from Dedicated Credits. This budget has a complement of 265 FTE's.

Carlos Braceras handed out three documents which answer questions that the committee has asked the Department concerning this division.

The Analyst reviewed the Region Management budget brief and explained the breakdown of the four region offices and three district maintenance offices. The recommended FY 2008 base budget is \$24,490,900 which includes \$4,709,100 for Region One, \$8,780,300 for Region Two which oversees highways of approximately one half of the State's population, \$4,297,000 for Region Three, \$4,781,200 for Region Four, \$551,900 for Richfield Maintenance District, \$645,900 for Price Maintenance District, and \$725,500 for Cedar City Maintenance District. The sources of these funds are \$20,136,800 from the Transportation Fund, \$3,123,100 from Federal Funds, and \$1,231,00 from Dedicated Credits. This budget has a complement of 264.5 FTE's. The majority of this budget is for Personal Services.

Mr. Braceras explained that all resources are applied to specific projects and can be moved from region to region as needed. He discussed the challenges of the fast growing St. George area. They are not currently planning for a new region there, but they are trying to locate a project manager and a traffic engineer in St. George. The high cost of housing in the area affects their success in doing this.

The Analyst reviewed the Support Services budget brief. The FY 2008 base budget recommendation is \$26,194,200 which includes funding for the following programs:

Administrative Services	\$2,140,200
Loss Management	2,872,200
Building and Grounds	875,900
Human Resources	1,521,500
Procurement	1,146,600
Data Processing	8,109,000
Comptroller	2,485,600
Internal Auditor	735,600
Community Relations	548,000
Ports of Entry	5,759,600

The source of these funds is \$25,606,900 from the Transportation Fund and \$587,300 from Federal Funds.

The Department of Transportation Fees are unchanged from the FY 2007 budget.

There was a discussion of rates for the use of the aircraft in the department. Fees were recently raised to reflect raised fuel costs. The department recently disposed of two used aircraft and got one used aircraft in better condition. The Governor's use of the aircraft comes from the DOT budget. Loss Management is essentially insurance of their operations.

The Department reported that they go through due process when they make fee changes. There was some discussion of the Larry Miller POST facility which is currently vacated. The Department has decided that they don't have a use for it.

The committee would like a breakdown of the total amount of General Fund moneys in the department and how they are disbursed.

MOTION: Rep. Hendrickson moved to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Kiser and Rep. Painter absent for the vote.

Sen Walker adjourned the meeting at 3:15 p.m.

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Rep. Wayne Harper, Co-Chair

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Sen. Carlene Walker, Co-Chair